



Jon Appel, Plant Pathologist

## Plant Disease in Kansas

November 28, 2005

Report 8, Volume 31

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

The 2006 winter wheat crop appears to be in pretty good health with good stands across much of Kansas.

Diseases were present in the wheat and some may need monitoring particularly in west central and south central Kansas.

### **OUTLOOK**

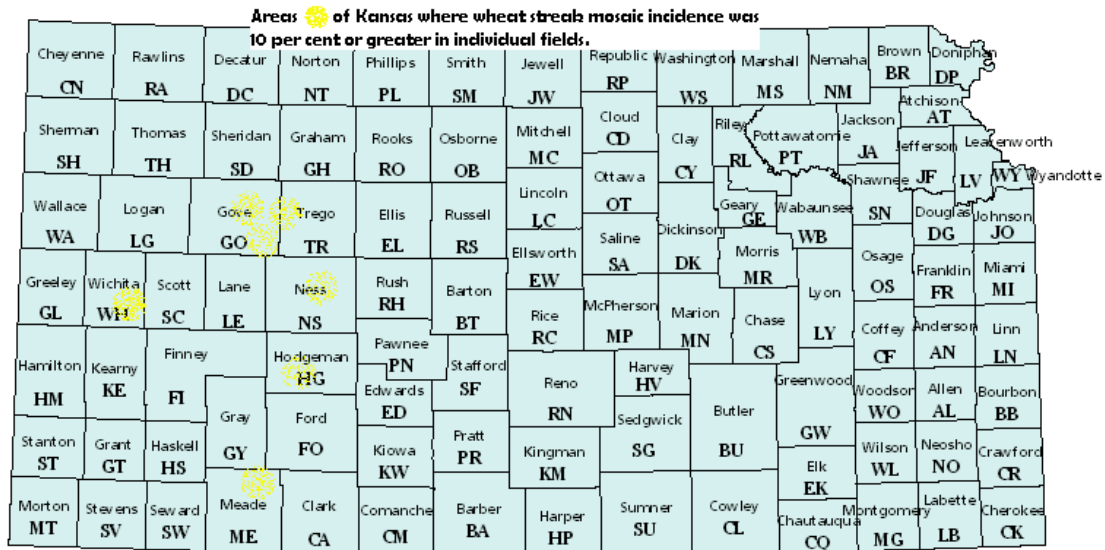
Recent cold weather should stop or delay any further disease development in the winter wheat until warmer temperatures prevail.

### **WHEAT**

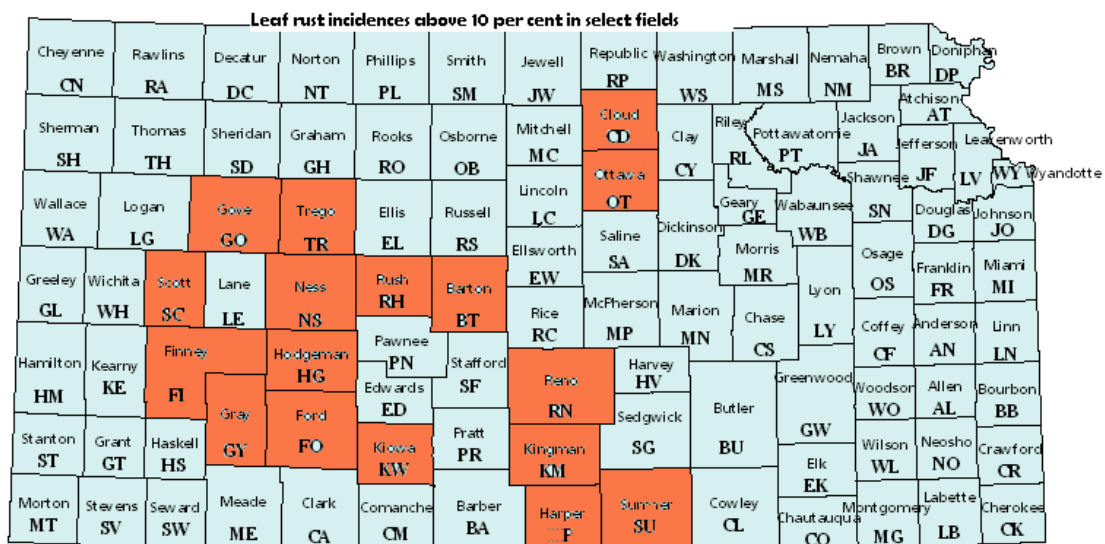
Fall is the time of year when first indications of disease problems can be assessed for the spring crop. In September (Report 7), wheat disease was reported as widespread in volunteer wheat in north central, northwest, and central Kansas. Leaf rust was the predominate disease but wheat streak mosaic was also noted in select fields.

The following are maps made of disease findings during November survey of planted fields. Survey included the north central, west central, southwest, south central and central crop reporting districts.

Not all counties within these districts were surveyed. Eastern Kansas fields were not surveyed.



Wheat streak mosaic at individual field incidences of ten per cent or greater were found in the counties of Gove (GO), Ness (NS), Wichita (WH), Hodgeman (HG), and Meade (ME). In other areas of the state, trace incidences were found in Reno (RN), Finney (FI), Ford (FO), Barton (BT), Greeley (GL), and Wallace (WA) counties. Greeley County had a major epidemic of wheat streak mosaic in 2005.



Leaf rust was widespread in much of central Kansas and the eastern portion of western Kansas. Lower incidences were found in fields located in counties neighboring the highlighted counties. Pustules

were found on leaves and in the crown tissue. Extreme western Kansas wheat had almost no leaf rust infection. A couple of reports of powdery mildew and speckled leaf blotch were made in southwest and south central Kansas. These observations were incidental and represent near historic lows for the two diseases. Kansas State University (J. Stack and J. Pierzynski) reported two soil borne mosaic positive diagnosis from wheat in Harper and Gove counties that were sent in to the Diagnostic Clinic. This diagnosis was very unusual as almost all reports are made in the spring although infection occurs in the fall.

Barley yellow dwarf virus is perennially a problem in southeast Kansas and occasionally in other districts of the state.